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SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-eighth year

Letter dated 30 April 1993 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement of the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia concerning the adoption of General Assembly resolution 47/229 of 29 April 1993 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 8, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIC
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

ANNEX

Statement of the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia concerning the adoption of General Assembly resolution 47/229 of 29 April 1993

The Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia expresses its deep regret at the adoption of General Assembly resolution 47/229 of 29 April 1993, by which Yugoslavia has been denied the right of participating in the work of the Economic and Social Council.

By continuing the unprecedented and unprincipled drive to punish economically and politically and isolate the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the latest resolution is also an incredulous example of exerting pressure on Yugoslavia to stop the civil war in Bosnia and Herzegovina to which it is not a party.

In denying the right of a founding Member State of the United Nations to participate in the work of one of its principal organs, an action which has no legal basis in the Charter of the United Nations, the General Assembly has chosen to embark upon a perilous path which may in the long run undermine the very foundations of the world Organization. The fact that more than one third of the entire membership of the United Nations either failed to support the resolution or decided not to participate in the vote clearly indicates that serious concerns and questions are being raised concerning the legality of this action.

The resolution is also an affront to the constant efforts that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is investing in the search for a just and lasting settlement to all aspects of the crisis and hostilities in the former Yugoslavia.

It is particularly unfortunate that such a measure is being undertaken with regard to the Economic and Social Council which, as a principal organ of the United Nations and together with its functional commissions and subsidiary bodies, serves as a basis of the international humanitarian order and as a mechanism for the protection of human rights.

Such punitive actions have been undertaken exactly at a time when the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, its peoples and over a half a million of refugees who found shelter in its territory have been subjected to inhuman and unjustified sanctions unprecedented in the history of the United Nations. They seriously jeopardize the realization of the noble goals of economic and social development, which is indeed the essence of the mandate of the Economic and Social Council.

The decision to deny the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia the right to participate in the work of the Economic and Social Council will adversely affect not only its peoples but will, taking into account the active role and contribution of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in international cooperation in the social and humanitarian field, negatively affect collaboration in this area with neighbouring countries and in the region as whole. In that regard, we

particularly point out the cooperation in providing humanitarian assistance, securing basic human rights, cooperation in combating illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs, crime prevention and assistance to vulnerable groups such as women, children, invalids and the elderly.